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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10010652-1

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): **Fernando Pedone**

Confirmation No.: **4220**

Application No.: **09/931,989**

Examiner: **Burgess, Barbara N.**

Filing Date: **August 17, 2001**

Group Art Unit: **2157**

Title: **Method and System for Performing Fault-Tolerant Online Validation of Service Requests**

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
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TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF

Transmitted herewith is the Appeal Brief in this application with respect to the Notice of Appeal filed on 10/10/2005.

The fee for filing this Appeal Brief is (37 CFR 1.17(c)) \$500.00.

(complete (a) or (b) as applicable)

The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) apply.

☐ (a) Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 (fees: 37 CFR 1.17(a)-(d)) for the total number of months checked below:

☐ 1st Month
\$120

☐ 2nd Month
\$450

☐ 3rd Month
\$1020

☐ 4th Month
\$1590

☐ The extension fee has already been filed in this application.

☒ (b) Applicant believes that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.

Please charge to Deposit Account 08-2025 the sum of \$ 500. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 08-2025 under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

Fernando Pedone

By David M. Hoffman

David M. Hoffman

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg No. : **54,174**

Date : **12/6/2005**

Telephone : **(281) 970-4545**

Rev 10/05 (AplBrief)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Fernando Pedone

Serial No.: 09/931,989

Filed: August 17, 2001

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
PERFORMING FAULT-
TOLERANT ONLINE
VALIDATION OF SERVICE
REQUESTS

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§ Group Art Unit: 2157
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§ Examiner: Burgess, Barbara N.
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§ Atty Docket: 10010652-1
§ NUHP:0331 BLT/BLT/HOF
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December 6, 2005 Date	 David M. Hoffman

Sir:

APPEAL BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§ 41.31 AND 41.37

This Appeal Brief is being filed in furtherance of the Notice of Appeal mailed on October 10, 2005 and received by the Patent Office on October 13, 2005.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fee of \$500.00, and any additional fees which may be necessary to advance prosecution of the present application, to Account No. 08-2025, Order No. 10010652-1/BLT (NUHP:0331).

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1. **REAL PARTY IN INTEREST**

The real party in interest is Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. (hereafter “HPDC”), a Texas Limited Partnership having its principal place of business in Houston, Texas and the Assignee of the above-referenced application. Accordingly, HPDC, as the Assignee of the above-referenced application, will be directly affected by the Board’s decision in the pending appeal.

2. **RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

The Appellant is unaware of any other appeals or interferences related to this Appeal.

3. **STATUS OF CLAIMS**

Claims 1-20 are currently pending and under final rejection and, thus, are the subject of this appeal.

4. **STATUS OF AMENDMENTS**

There are no outstanding amendments.

5. **SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER**

The present application is directed to a “method and system for performing fault-tolerant online validation of service requests.” Title; *see* page 4, lines 15-32. With regard to the aspect of the invention set forth in independent claim 1, discussions of the recited features of claim 1 can be found at least in the locations in the specification and drawings cited below. By way of example, an embodiment in accordance with the present invention relates to a “method for validation of a service request [*e.g.*, 20] in a distributed computing system [*e.g.*, 10].” *See, e.g.*, page 5, lines 15-20; page 6, lines 17-18; *see also* Fig. 1. The method

comprises “providing a request for service.” *See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 17-18. The method also includes “providing a plurality of channels connected to a client [*e.g.*, 10].” *See, e.g.*, page 5, lines 15-24. The method further comprises “providing first and second processes [*e.g.*, 11 and 14] connected to the plurality of channels for validating the request for service.” *See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 9-29; *see also* Fig. 1. The method also includes “determining in the first and second processes that the request for service has not been previously validated.” *See id.* The method also comprises “transmitting from the first and second processes messages [*e.g.*, 22 and 24] having information indicative of the transmitting from the first or second process and the request for service.” *See id.* The method further comprises “storing the information in the first and second processes.” *See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 30-34. The method also includes “accepting the request for service in the first or second process after the messages are transmitted and message related information is different from the information stored in the respective first or second process.” *See, e.g.*, page 7, lines 1-3.

With regard to the aspect of the invention set forth in independent claim 6, discussions of the recited features of claim 6 can be found at least in the locations in the specification and drawings cited below. By way of example, an embodiment in accordance with the present invention relates to a “method of validating a service request [*e.g.*, 20].” *See, e.g.*, page 5, lines 15-20; page 6, lines 17-18; *see also* Fig. 1. The method also comprises “providing a request for service.” *See id.* The method further includes “providing a plurality of channels connected to a client [*e.g.*, 10].” *See, e.g.*, page 5, lines 15-24. The method also comprises “providing a plurality of processes [*e.g.*, 11 and 14] connected to the plurality of channels for validating the request for service.” *See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 9-29; *see also* Fig. 1. The method also includes “determining in the plurality of processes that the request for service has not been previously validated.” *See id.* The method further comprises “transmitting from the

plurality of processes values indicative of the transmitting from the each of the plurality of processes and the request for service.” *See id.* The method also comprises “storing the value in the plurality of processes.” *See, e.g.,* page 6, lines 30-34. The method further includes “accepting the request for service in one of the plurality of processes after the value is transmitted and a value related to the value transmitted is different from the value stored in the one of the plurality of processes.” *See, e.g.,* page 7, lines 1-3.

With regard to the aspect of the invention set forth in independent claim 11, discussions of the recited features of claim 11 can be found at least in the locations in the specification and drawings cited below. By way of example, an embodiment in accordance with the present invention relates to a “distributed computing system [*e.g.,* 10].” *See, e.g.,* page 5, lines 15-20; page 6, lines 17-18; *see also* Fig. 1. The computing system comprises “a client for providing a request for service.” *See, e.g.,* 5, lines 21-25. The computing system also comprises “a plurality of channels connected to the client.” *See id.* The computing system also includes “first and second processes [*e.g.,* 11 and 14] connected to the plurality of channels for validating the request for service.” *See, e.g.,* page 6, lines 9-29; *see also* Fig. 1. Further, the first and second processes each includes “means for determining that the request for service has not been previously validated.” *See, e.g.,* page 6, lines 19-24. The first and second processes also each include “means for transmitting a message [*e.g.,* 22 and 24] having information indicative of the transmitting from the first or second process and the request for service.” *See, e.g.,* page 6, lines 19-29. The first and second processes also each include “means for storing the information.” *See, e.g.,* page 6, lines 30-34. The first and second processes also each include “means for accepting the request for service in the first or second process after the message is transmitted and message related information is different

from the information stored in the respective first process or second process.” *See, e.g.*, page 7, lines 1-3.

With regard to the aspect of the invention set forth in independent claim 16, discussions of the recited features of claim 16 can be found at least in the locations in the specification and drawings cited below. By way of example, an embodiment in accordance with the present invention relates to a “distributed computing system [*e.g.*, 10].” *See, e.g.*, page 5, lines 15-20; page 6, lines 17-18; *see also* Fig. 1. The computing system comprises “a client for providing a request for service.” *See, e.g.*, 5, lines 21-25. The computing system also comprises “a plurality of channels connected to the client.” *See id.* The computing system also includes “a plurality of processes [*e.g.*, 11 and 14] connected to the plurality of channels for validating the request for service.” *See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 9-29; *see also* Fig. 1. Further, the plurality of processes each includes “means for determining that the request for service has not been previously validated.” *See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 19-24. The plurality of processes also each includes “means for transmitting a value [*e.g.*, 22 and 24] indicative of the transmitting from the one of the plurality of processes and the request for service.” *See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 19-29. The plurality of processes also each includes “means for storing the value.” *See, e.g.*, page 6, lines 30-34. The plurality of processes also comprises “means for accepting the request for service in the one of the plurality of processes after the value is transmitted and a value related to the value transmitted is different from the value stored in the one of the plurality of processes.” *See, e.g.*, page 7, lines 1-3.

6. **GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL**

The Appellant respectfully urges the Board to review and reverse the Examiner’s ground of rejection in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

as being anticipated by Klos et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0022379 A1, hereafter referred to as “the Klos reference”).

7. **ARGUMENT**

As discussed in detail below, the Examiner has improperly rejected the pending claims. Further, the Examiner has misapplied long-standing and binding legal precedents and principles in rejecting the claims under Section 102. Accordingly, the Appellant respectfully requests full and favorable consideration by the Board, as the Appellant respectfully asserts that claims 1-20 are currently in condition for allowance.

A. **Ground of Rejection**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the Klos reference. The Appellant respectfully traverses this rejection.

With respect to the rejection of independent claim 1 under Section 102(e), the Examiner stated:

As per claim 1, Klos discloses a method for validation of a service request in a distributed computing system comprising:
providing a request for service (paragraph [0029]);
providing a plurality of channels connected to the client (paragraphs [0308]-[0310]);
providing first and second processes connected to the plurality of channels for validating the request for service (paragraphs [0007], [0010], Abstract);
determining in the first and second processes that the request for service has not been previously validated (paragraph [0039]);
transmitting from the first and second processes messages having information indicative of the transmitting from the first or second process and the request for service (paragraphs [0007], [0010]);
storing the information in the first and second processes (paragraphs [0037], [0055], [0067]); and
accepting the request for service in the first or second process after the messages are transmitted and message related

information is different from the information stored in the respective first or second process (paragraphs [0618], Abstract).

Final Office Action pages 2-3

With respect to the rejection of independent claim 1 under Section 102(e), the Examiner stated:

As per claims 6, 11, and 16, Klos discloses a method, means, and system of validating a service request comprising: providing a request for service (paragraph [0029]); providing a plurality of channels connected to the client (paragraphs [0308]-[0310]); providing a plurality of processes connected to the plurality of channels for validating the request for service (paragraphs [0007], [0010], Abstract); determining in the plurality of processes that the request for service has not been previously validated (paragraph [0039]); transmitting from the plurality of processes values indicative of the transmitting from the each of the plurality of processes and the request for service (paragraphs [0007], [0010]); storing the value in the plurality of processes (paragraphs [0037], [0055], [0067]); and accepting the request for service in one of the plurality of processes after the value is transmitted and a value related to the value transmitted is different from the value stored in the one of the plurality of processes (paragraphs [0618], Abstract).

Final Office Action, pages 3-5.

1. **Judicial precedent has clearly established a legal standard for a *prima facie* anticipation rejection.**

As the board is well aware, anticipation under Section 102 can be found only if a single reference shows exactly what is claimed. *See Titanium Metals Corp. v. Banner*, 227 U.S.P.Q. 773 (Fed. Cir.1985). For a prior art reference to anticipate under Section 102, every element of the claimed invention must be identically shown in a single reference. *See In re Bond*, 15 U.S.P.Q.2d 1566 (Fed. Cir.1990). That is, the prior art reference must show the *identical invention* “in as complete detail as contained in the ... claim” to support a *prima*

facie case of anticipation. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989) (emphasis added). Thus, for anticipation, the cited reference must not only disclose all of the recited features but must also disclose the *part-to-part relationships* between these features. See *Lindermann Maschinenfabrik GMBH v. American Hoist & Derrick*, 221 U.S.P.Q. 481, 486 (Fed. Cir.1984). Accordingly, Appellant needs only point to a single element or claimed relationship not found in the cited reference to demonstrate that the cited reference fails to anticipate the claimed subject matter. A *strict correspondence* between the claimed language and the cited reference must be established for a valid anticipation rejection.

Moreover, during patent examination, the pending claims must be given an interpretation that is *reasonable* and *consistent* with the specification. See *In re Prater*, 162 U.S.P.Q. 541, 550-51 (C.C.P.A. 1969); *In re Morris*, 44 U.S.P.Q.2d 1023, 1027-28 (Fed. Cir. 1997); see also M.P.E.P. § 2111 (describing the standards for claim interpretation during prosecution). Indeed, the *specification* is “the primary basis for construing the claims.” See *Phillips v. AWH Corp.*, 75 U.S.P.Q.2d 1321, 1327-29 (Fed. Cir. 2005). It is usually dispositive. See *id.* Interpretation of the claims must also be consistent with the interpretation that those skilled in the art would reach. See *In re Cortright*, 49 U.S.P.Q.2d 1464, 1468 (Fed. Cir. 1999); see also M.P.E.P. § 2111. That is, recitations of a claim must be read as they would be interpreted by those of ordinary skill in the art. See *Rexnord Corp. v. Laliram Corp.*, 60 U.S.P.Q.2d 1851, 1854 (Fed. Cir. 2001); see also M.P.E.P. § 2111.01. In summary, an Examiner, during prosecution, must interpret a claim recitation as one of ordinary skill in the art would reasonably interpret the claim in view of the specification. See *In re American Academy of Science Tech Center*, 70 U.S.P.Q.2d 1827 (Fed. Cir. 2004).

2. **The Examiner's rejections of independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 are improper because the Klos references fails to disclose determining that a request for service has not been validated.**

The Appellant respectfully asserts that the Klos reference does not anticipate independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 because those claims recite elements that are not taught, suggested, or illustrated in the Klos reference. For example, independent claim 1 recites "determining in the first and second processes that the request for service has not been previously validated." Independent claim 6 recites "determining in the plurality of processes that the request for service has not been previously validated." Independent claim 11 recites "means for determining that the request for service has not been previously validated." Independent claim 16 recites "means for determining that the request for service has not been previously validated."

The Appellant respectfully asserts that the Examiner has misinterpreted the Klos reference to disclose the above-recited claim features. Specifically, The Appellant asserts that the Examiner has misinterpreted paragraph 39 of the Klos reference to anticipate the above-recited claim features. *See* Final Office Action, page 2. In its entirety, paragraph 39 of the Klos reference states:

According to a further aspect, the input process identifies duplicative requests, such that a first of the duplicative requests is processed and others of the duplicative requests are not processed by the order management system.

This section of the Klos reference clearly describes a mechanism for handling *duplicate* requests and not a mechanism for determining whether or not a request has previously been validated. As such, the mechanism cited by the Examiner would not detect an *initial non-validated* request because this request *was not a duplicate*. For at least this reason, the mechanism from the Klos reference cited by the Examiner can not anticipate the

above-recited claim features. As such, the Appellant respectfully requests that the Board overturn the rejection and allow independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 and the claims that depend therefrom.

3. **The Examiner's rejections of independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 are improper because the Klos references fails to disclose transmitting messages having information indicative of the transmitting from the first or second process and the request for service.**

The Appellant also respectfully asserts that the Klos reference does not anticipate independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 because those claims recite elements that are not taught, suggested, or illustrated in the Klos reference. Specifically, independent claim 1 recites "transmitting from the first and second processes messages having information indicative of the transmitting from the first or second process and the request for service." Independent claim 6 recites "transmitting from the plurality of processes values indicative of the transmitting from the each of the plurality of processes and the request for service." Independent claim 11 recites "means for transmitting a message having information indicative of the transmitting from the first or second process and the request for service." Independent claim 16 recites "means for transmitting a value indicative of the transmitting from the one of the plurality of processes and the request for service."

The Appellant respectfully asserts that the Examiner has not met the Examiner burden but rather has misinterpreted the Klos reference to disclose the above-recited claim features. In particular, the Appellant believes that the Examiner has incorrectly relied on paragraphs 7 and 10 of the Klos reference. *See* Final Office Action, page 2. However, paragraph 7 is a list of *acronyms and terms*, and as such, cannot possibly disclose the features described above, and paragraph 10 comprises basic background information about phone systems, none of

which discloses the features of claims 1, 6, 11, and 16. Specifically, paragraph 10 of the Klos reference states:

In recent years, a number of new telephone service features have been provided by an Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN). The AIN evolved out of a need to increase the capabilities of the telephone network architecture to meet the growing needs of telephone customers. The AIN provides a mechanism by which new services may be created outside of a particular vendor's switch. Each CO in the AIN system is equipped as a Service Switching Point (SSP) which is capable of suspending normal call processing when encountering a "trigger." The trigger invokes AIN service logic associated with a subscriber. Once a call is triggered, the SSP launches a query through a Signal Transfer Point (STP) in a Common Channel Signaling Network (CCS) to a Service Control Point (SCP). The SCP contains the AIN service logic for the particular subscriber and determines how to handle and route the call. Once the SCP processes the call, the SCP sends the appropriate routing instructions through the STP to the SSP, which then routes the call. Intelligent Peripherals (IP) may be provided to process multi-media services such as announcements, voice activated dialing, etc.

Klos, paragraph 10.

This section of the Klos reference describes the routing of an *ordinary telephone call*. As such, it clearly does not disclose first and second processes, much less "transmitting from the first and second processes messages having information indicative of the transmitting from the first or second process and the request for service," as recited in claim 1 or the features of independent claims 6, 11, and 16 described above. Accordingly, the Appellant respectfully asserts that the Examiner has misapplied the Klos reference in formulating the pending rejection. As such, the Appellant respectfully requests that the Board overturn the rejection and allow independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 and the claims that depend therefrom.

4. **The Examiner's rejections of independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 are improper because the Klos reference fails to disclose accepting the request for service after the messages are transmitted and message related information is different from the information stored in the respective first or second process.**

As stated above, the Appellant respectfully asserts that the Klos reference does not anticipate independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 because those claims recite elements that are not taught, suggested, or illustrated in the Klos reference. In further example, independent claim 1 recites "accepting the request for service in the first or second process after the messages are transmitted and message related information is different from the information stored in the respective first or second process." Independent claim 6 recites "accepting the request for service in one of the plurality of processes after the value is transmitted and a value related to the value transmitted is different from the value stored in the one of the plurality of processes." Independent claim 11 recites "means for accepting the request for service in the first or second process after the message is transmitted and message related information is different from the information stored in the respective first process or second process." Independent claim 16 recites "means for accepting the request for service in the one of the plurality of processes after the value is transmitted and a value related to the value transmitted is different from the value stored in the one of the plurality of processes."

As above, the Appellant respectfully asserts that the Examiner has not satisfied the Examiner's burden with regard to the above-described features of claims 1, 6, 11, and 16. Specifically, the Examiner suggested that paragraph 618 or the Abstract of the Klos reference discloses these features. However, paragraph 618 of the Klos reference clearly *does not* disclose these claim features. In its entirety, paragraph 618 states:

The Generic Order Management (GOM) Services 400 accept inputs from OSS systems and SOAC and process the request to derive the appropriate provision provisioning steps for affected NEs based a particular combination of added/deleted/updates services for a WTN. The GOM Services 400 will be described below with reference to FIGS. 13-14.

Klos, paragraph 618.

The Appellant respectfully asserts that paragraph of 618 of the Klos reference does not disclose the features of claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 described above. In fact, the Appellant is unable to determine *any relationship* between the above-described claim features and the subject matter described in paragraph 618. As such, paragraph 618 of the Klos reference cannot possibly disclose the above-described features of independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16.

Similarly, the Abstract of the Klos reference *does not* disclose the above-recited claim features. Specifically, in relevant part, the Abstract of the Klos reference states:

The service management system includes table-driven logic which is used to validate and process the requests to determine the provisioning information. Once the provisioning information is determined, it is queued to the appropriate network element, and an acknowledgment is sent to the originating service order source. The service management system also includes a interface to query the database and network elements to perform debugging and error correction.

Abstract, lines 10-18.

As shown above, the Abstract of the Klos reference does not disclose a first process, a second process, or message related information. As such, the Appellant respectfully asserts that the Abstract can also not possibly disclose the foregoing features of claims 1, 6, 11, and 16. For this additional reason alone, the Appellant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection. Accordingly, the Appellant respectfully requests that the Board overturn the rejection and allow independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 and the claims that depend therefrom.

5. **The Examiner's rejections of dependent claims 5 and 10 are improper because the Klos references fails to disclose executing a consensus**

Although the Appellant respectfully submits that each of the claims dependent on independent claims 1 and 6 is allowable for the reasons set forth above, the Appellant would like to specifically address an additional point regarding claim 5 (dependent on claim 1) and claim 10 (dependent on claim 6). Specifically, the Appellant respectfully asserts that additional features recited in dependent claims 5 and 10 are also not disclosed by the Klos reference. For example, dependent claim 5 recites "executing a consensus after receiving the message to propose consensus information," and dependent claim 10 recites executing a consensus after receiving the value to propose a consensus value."

The Klos reference, on the other hand, does not appear to disclose anything remote approaching executing a consensus. As described in the specification of the present application:

Consensus is defined by the primitives *propose(value)* and *decide(value)*, and guarantees that (i) every process that remains up enough time decides a value, (ii) no two processes decide a different value, and (iii) if a process decides a value *v*, then *v* was proposed by some process.
Application, page 3, lines 8-12 (emphasis in original)

On the contrary, the sections of the Klos reference cited by the Examiner (paragraphs 139-147) do not appear to be even slightly related to performing a consensus. In fact, the Klos reference (which is over 140 pages) does not even include the word "consensus." As such, the Appellant respectfully asserts that the Klos reference does not anticipate the above-recited features of claim 5 and 10. Accordingly, the Appellant respectfully requests that the Board

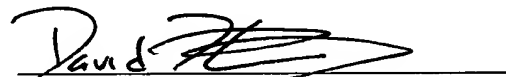
overturn the rejection and allow dependent claims 5 and 10 and the claims that depend therefrom.

Conclusion

The Appellant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner or Board wishes to resolve any other issues by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner or Board is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 6, 2005


David M. Hoffman
Reg. No., 54,174
(281) 970-4545

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY

Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

8. **APPENDIX OF CLAIMS ON APPEAL**

1. A method for validation of a service request in a distributed computing system comprising:

providing a request for service;

providing a plurality of channels connected to a client; and

providing first and second processes connected to the plurality of channels for

validating the request for service;

determining in the first and second processes that the request for service has not been previously validated;

transmitting from the first and second processes messages having information

indicative of the transmitting from the first or second process and the request for service;

storing the information in the first and second processes; and

accepting the request for service in the first or second process after the messages are transmitted and message related information is different from the information stored in the respective first or second process.

2. The method of validating a service request as claimed in claim 1 including:

rejecting the request for service in the first or second process when the message

related information is the same as the information stored in the respective first or second process.

3. The method of validating a service request as claimed in claim 1 wherein:

transmitting the message broadcasts the message;

storing the information stores the information after broadcasting the message; and the message contains the message related information.

4. The method of validating a service request as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
transmitting the message sends the message; and
storing the information stores the information after receiving the sent message.

5. The method of validating a service request as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
transmitting the message sends the message; and
storing the information stores the information after receiving the sent message; and
including:

executing a consensus after receiving the message to propose
consensus information; and
the consensus information is the message related information.

6. A method of validating a service request comprising:
providing a request for service;
providing a plurality of channels connected to a client;
providing a plurality of processes connected to the plurality of channels for validating
the request for service;
determining in the plurality of processes that the request for service has not been
previously validated;
transmitting from the plurality of processes values indicative of the transmitting from
the each of the plurality of processes and the request for service;
storing the value in the plurality of processes; and

accepting the request for service in one of the plurality of processes after the value is transmitted and a value related to the value transmitted is different from the value stored in the one of the plurality of processes.

7. The method of validating a service request as claimed in claim 6 including: rejecting the request for service in others of the plurality of processes when the value related to the value transmitted is the same as the value stored in the others of the plurality of processes.

8. The method of validating a service request as claimed in claim 6 wherein: transmitting the value broadcasts the value; and storing the value stores the value after the value is broadcast.

9. The method of validating a service request as claimed in claim 6 wherein: transmitting the value sends the value; and storing the value stores the value after receiving the sent value.

10. The method of validating a service request as claimed in claim 6 including: transmitting the value by sending, and executing a consensus after receiving the value to propose a consensus value; and wherein:

storing the value stores the value after receiving the sent value; and the consensus value is the value related to the value transmitted.

11. A distributed computing system comprising:

a client for providing a request for service;

a plurality of channels connected to the client; and

first and second processes connected to the plurality of channels for validating the

request for service wherein the first and second processes each includes:

means for determining that the request for service has not been
previously validated;

means for transmitting a message having information indicative of the
transmitting from the first or second process and the request for
service;

means for storing the information; and

means for accepting the request for service in the first or second
process after the message is transmitted and message related
information is different from the information stored in the
respective first process or second process.

12. The distributed computing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein:

the first and second processes each includes means for rejecting the request for service
in the first or second process when the message related information is the same
as the information stored in the respective first or second process.

13. The distributed computing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein:

the means for transmitting the message broadcasts the message; and

the means for storing the information stores the information after broadcasting the
message and the message contains the message related information.

14. The distributed computing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein:
the first and second processes include means for transmitting the message by sending;
and
the first and second processes each include means for storing the information after
receiving the sent message.

15. The distributed computing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein:
the first and second processes include means for transmitting the message by sending;
the first and second processes each include means for storing the information after
receiving the sent message;
the first and second processes each includes means for executing a consensus after
receiving the message to propose consensus information; and
the consensus information is the message related information.

16. A distributed computing system comprising:
a client for providing a request for service;
a plurality of channels connected to the client; and
a plurality of processes connected to the plurality of channels for validating the
request for service wherein the plurality of processes each includes:
means for determining that the request for service has not been
previously validated;
means for transmitting a value indicative of the transmitting from the
one of the plurality of processes and the request for service;
means for storing the value; and

means for accepting the request for service in the one of the plurality of processes after the value is transmitted and a value related to the value transmitted is different from the value stored in the one of the plurality of processes.

17. The distributed computing system as claimed in claim 16 wherein:
the plurality of processes each includes means for rejecting the request for service in others of the plurality of processes when the value related to the value transmitted is the same as the value stored in the others of the plurality of processes.

18. The distributed computing system as claimed in claim 16 wherein:
the means for transmitting the value broadcasts the value; and
the means for storing the value stores the value after the value is broadcast.

19. The distributed computing system as claimed in claim 16 wherein:
the plurality of processes include means for transmitting the value by sending; and
the plurality of processes each includes means for storing the value after receiving the sent value.

20. The distributed computing system as claimed in claim 16 wherein:
the plurality of processes includes means for transmitting the value by sending;
the plurality of processes each includes means for storing the value after receiving the sent value;

the plurality of processes each includes means for executing a consensus after
receiving the value to propose a consensus value; and
the consensus value is the value related to the value transmitted.

9. **EVIDENCE APPENDIX**

None

10. **RELATED PROCEEDING APPENDIX**

None